

# **Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District**

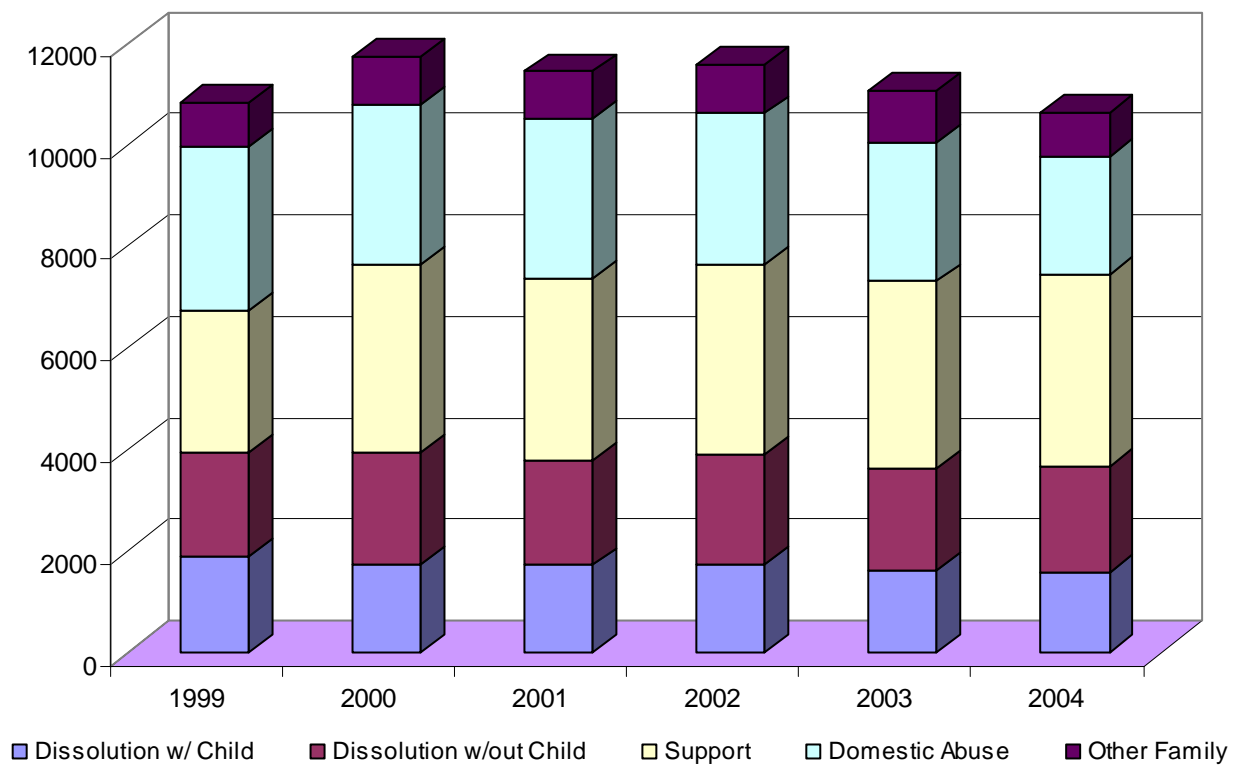
## **Family Division**



## Background Information on New Family Court Filings

◆ Number of new filings for Family Court cases since 1999

Family Court New Filings



Family Court cases are handled by Judges and Referees. Since 1999, there has been a 1.8% decrease in new cases filed in Family Court.

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### Customer— *Provide fair & equal treatment, Access to justice*

- ◆ Is the court perceived as fair to litigants and other constituents?
- ◆ Do litigants perceive they are being listened to?
- ◆ Do litigants understand the orders given by the court?
- ◆ Do litigants perceive that cases are resolved in a timely manner?

Is the court perceived as fair to litigants and other constituents?	
Litigants in Family Court for Domestic Abuse	7.84
Do litigants perceive they are being listened to?	
Litigants in Family Court for Domestic Abuse	7.20
Do litigants understand the orders given by the court?	
Litigants in Family Court for Domestic Abuse	8.06
Do litigants perceive that cases are resolved in a timely manner?	
Litigants in Family Court for Domestic Abuse	7.40

On a scale of 1 to 9, where 1 means strongly disagree and 9 means strongly agree.

Prior research tells us that satisfaction with the court process has more to do with fair treatment than with favorable case outcomes. In addition litigant satisfaction leads to viewing court authority as legitimate, which in turn leads to increased compliance with court orders.

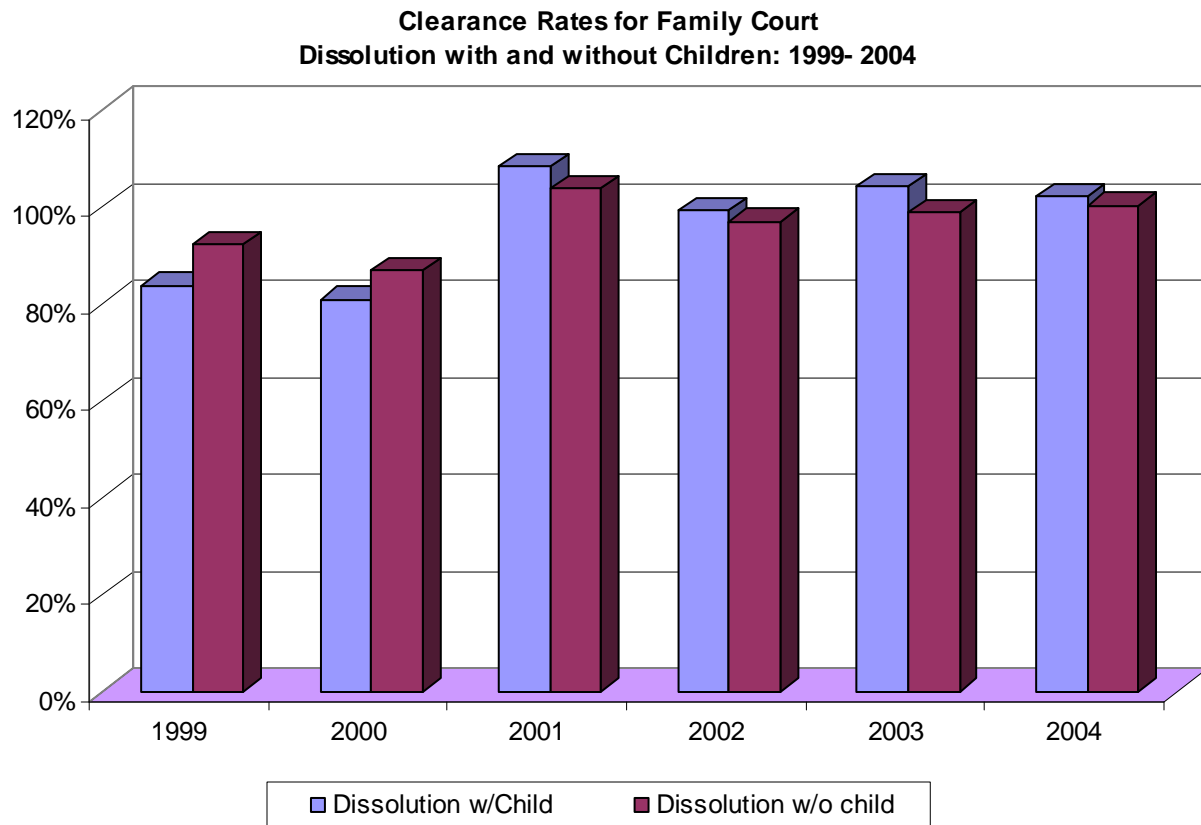
#### Fairness study administered to 378 Family Court Litigants

- ◆ 196 or 52% were Petitioners,
- ◆ 182 or 48% were respondents.

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### Process - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ◆ Clearance rates for Family Court

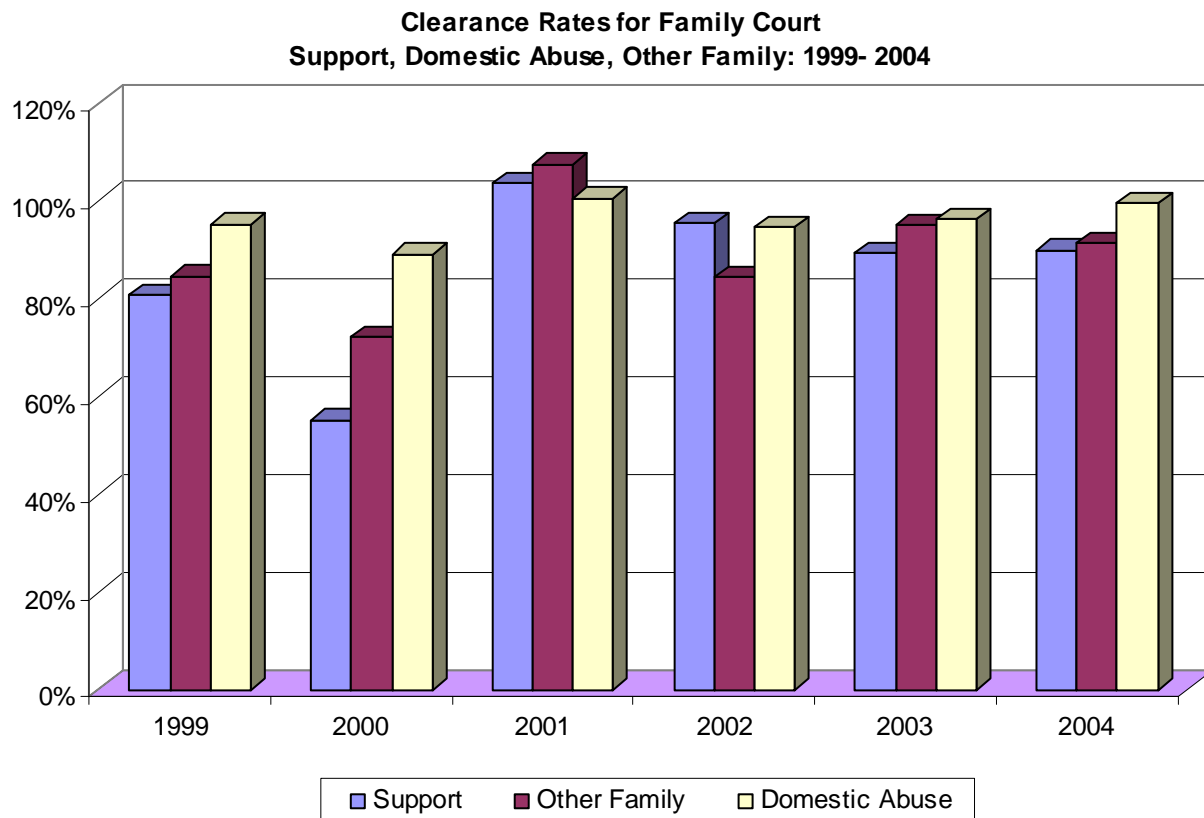


Clearance Rates are calculated by dividing the number of cases disposed by the number of new cases. Any amount over 100% means that the court is handling all the new cases and is beginning to work on pending cases as well.

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### **Process** - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ◆ Clearance rates for Family Court

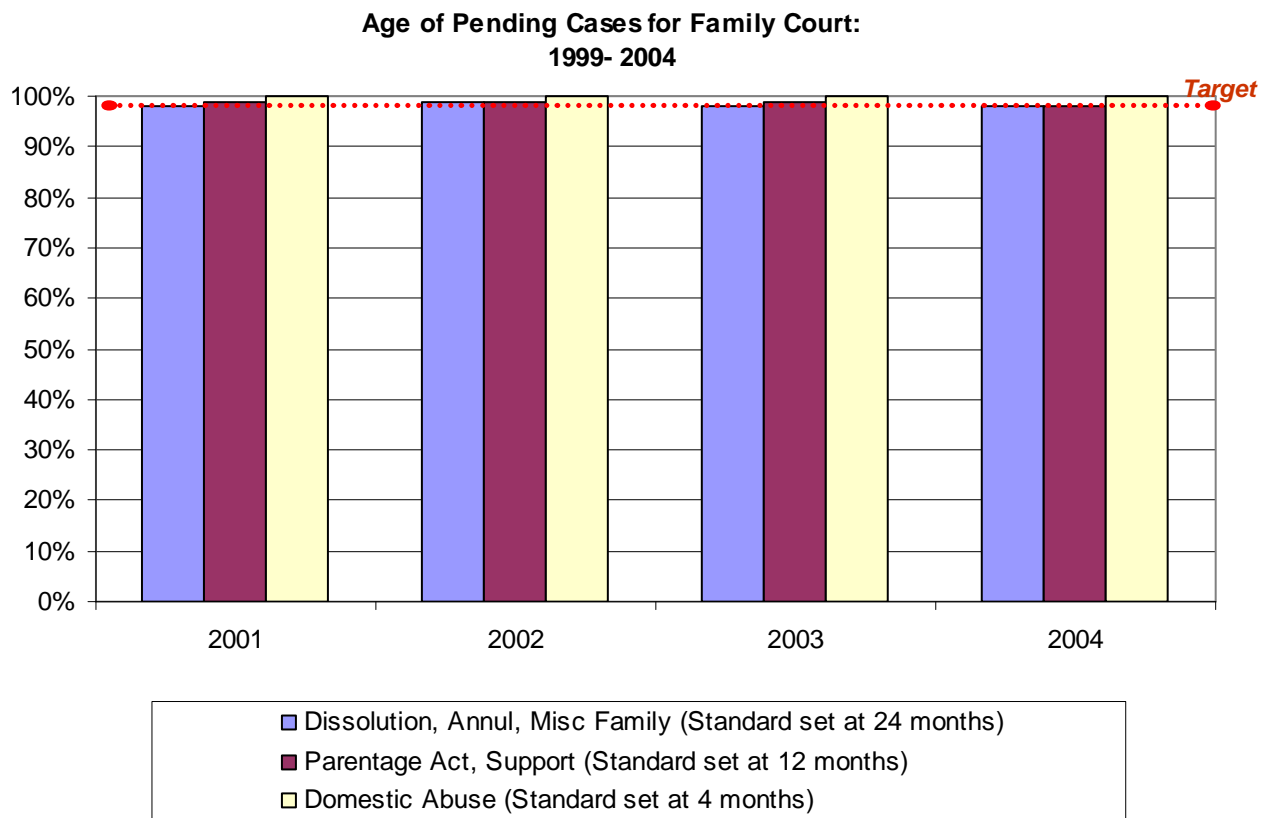


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## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### Process - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ◆ Average Age of Pending Cases for Family Court



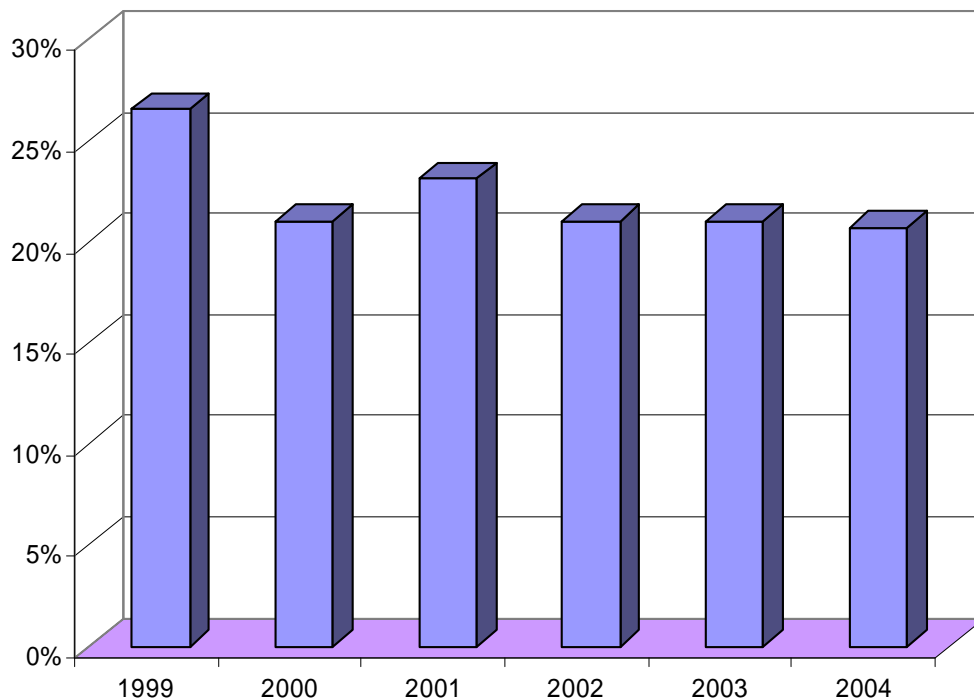
State Guidelines for the age of pending cases for Major Family case types vary by the type of case. Dissolution cases (divorce), annulments and other miscellaneous family cases share a guideline of 99% should be complete within 24 months. Support cases should be less than 12 months old. The majority of the Domestic Abuse (orders for protection) cases should be less than 4 months old. Pending cases are those cases that have not yet been disposed.

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### **Process** - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

#### ◆ Percent of cases pending for Major Family

Percent Pending for Major Family Cases: 1999- 2004



The 'Percent Pending' tracks the percent of the new cases filed each year that are still active at the end of each year. There has been a 22% decrease in the percent pending since 1999. This statistic has stayed relatively stable over the last three years.

## Performance Measures Fourth Judicial District

### **Process** - Fair & timely case processing, Effective & efficient case processing

- ◆ **Average age of Disposed Family Court cases**

- ◆ Unavailable at this time

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- ◆ **Average Number of Appearances for Family Court cases**

- ◆ Unavailable at this time